



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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CORN STOCKS UP, SOYBEAN & WHEAT STOCKS DOWN FROM 2007

SIOUX FALLS, March 31, 2008 – South Dakota's March 1, 2008, corn, oat, barley, and sorghum stocks are up from last year, according to the South Dakota field office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Soybean and all wheat stocks are down from last year. Grain stocks include grain on farms, grain in mills and elevators, grain in government storage bins, and grain stored under the farmer-owned Grain Reserve Program in South Dakota on March 1, 2008.

Corn stocks in South Dakota totaled 291.5 million bushels, up 28 percent from last year's total of 227.3 million bushels. On-farm stocks accounted for 190.0 million bushels, up 31 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 101.5 million bushels, are up 23 percent from 2007.

Soybean stocks totaled 56.0 million bushels, down 31 percent from last year. On-farm stocks totaled 30.0 million bushels, down 42 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 26.0 million bushels, are down 11 percent from last year.

All wheat stocks totaled 31.8 million bushels, down 19 percent from last year. This represents the lowest South Dakota March 1 all wheat stocks since 1977. On-farm stocks decreased 51 percent from last year, to 9.4 million bushels. Off-farm stocks, at 22.4 million bushels, are up 11 percent from last year's 20.1 million bushels.

Oat stocks, at 4.6 million bushels, are up 29 percent from last year. On-farm stocks totaled 3.6 million bushels, up 24 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks totaled 1.0 million bushels, up 51 percent from 2007.

Barley on-farm stocks totaled 480 thousand bushels, up 17 percent from 2007.

Sorghum off-farm stocks, at 1.5 million bushels, are up 48 percent from last year's 1.0 million bushels.

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